

DOCKET NO: 279096US3PCT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF :
KOJI TOKUDA, ET AL. : EXAMINER: YANG, J.
SERIAL NO: 10/553,199 :
FILED: OCTOBER 13, 2005 : GROUP ART UNIT: 1793
FOR: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR :
PRODUCING REDUCED METAL :

RESTRICTION RESPONSE

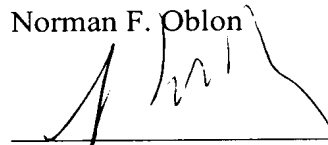
COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

SIR:

In response to the Office Action dated January 28, 2008, Applicant herein elect Group I, corresponding to claims 1-10, drawn to a method of producing reduced iron, **without traverse** for prosecution in the present application. A favorable and timely consideration of the elected species is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.
Norman F. Oblon



Robert T. Pous
Registration No. 29,099
Attorneys of Record

Customer Number
22850

Tel: (703) 413-3000
Fax: (703) 413 -2220
(OSMMN 08/07)